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WEEKLY EARNINGS OF EMPLOYEES (DISTRIBUTION), AUSTRALIA, AUGUST 1983 (PRELIMINARY)

PHONE INQUIRIES for more information about these statistics—contact Mr Geoff Winter on Canberra (062)

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State offices.

MAIN FEATURES

In August 1983, the estimated average weekly earnings of full-time male employees aged 20 years and over was \$353, an increase of 5.4% over August 1982. For full-time female employees aged 20 years and over the figure was \$283, an increase of 8.4%. These increases compare with 15.9% and 12.5% respectively for August 1982 over August 1981.

Comparable figures for males and females aged 15-19 years were \$177 (a 4.7% increase over August 1982) and \$166 (7.8% increase) respectively, compared with increases of 13.4% and 10.0% respectively for the year ended August 1982.

EXPLANATORY NOTES

Introduction

In association with the August 1983 labour force survey conducted throughout Australia, employed wage and salary earners ('employees') were asked about their earnings.

- 2. During the two weeks beginning Monday 8 August 1983 specially trained interviewers asked the questions of those of the 70,000 respondents in August labour force survey who fell within the scope of this survey.
- 3. This publication contains only a summary of results of the survey. Estimates shown are preliminary and may be revised. Further information which will be published as soon as possible is available on request. Results of similar surveys, the first conducted in August 1975, have been published in Weekly Earnings of Employees (Distribution), Australia (6310.0).

Scope

- 4. The survey included all civilians aged fifteen years and over who were employed as wage and salary earners in their main job, except:
 - (a) certain diplomatic personnel of overseas governments, customarily excluded from census and estimated populations;
 - (b) overseas residents in Australia;

- (c) dependants of non-Australian defence forces stationed in Australia;
- (d) students boarding at school, persons permanently unable to work, some patients in hospitals and sanatoria and inmates of reformatories, jails, etc. and
- (e) persons on workers' compensation.

Definitions

- 5. Weekly earnings referred to the amount of 'last total pay' prior to the interview (i.e. before taxation and other deductions have been made). For persons paid other than weekly, earnings were converted to a weekly equivalent. No adjustment has been made for any back payment of wage rises or pre-payment of leave, etc.
- 6. Median weekly earnings is the amount which divides the distribution of individuals into two equal groups, one having earnings above and the other below that amount. Medians were calculated from grouped data, the class intervals in some cases being finer than those published in the tables. Linear interpolation was used within the class interval in which the median fell.
- 7. Mean weekly earnings is the amount obtained by dividing the total earnings of a group by the number of units in that group.
- 8. The *main job* was defined as the job at which most hours were worked during the survey week (i.e. the week before the interview week). The *second job* was defined to include all remaining jobs in which some hours were worked during the survey week.
- 9. Full-time employees are those who usually work 35 hours a week or more (in all jobs) and others who, although usually part-time employees, worked 35 hours or more during the survey week. It should be noted that some full-time employees may have worked or been paid for less than a full week. Part-time employees are those who usually work less than 35 hours a week and who did so during the survey week. When recording hours of work, fractions of an hour were disregarded.

- 10. For the purposes of this survey persons were classified as having a second job if, during the survey week, they:
 - (a) worked in a second job; and
 - (b) were employed as a wage or salary earner in both of their jobs.

Service in the reserve defence forces was not regarded as a second job. Persons who by the nature of their employment worked for more than one employer, e.g. domestics, odd-job men, baby-sitters, etc., were not counted as having a second job unless they also held another job of a different kind; nor were those who worked for more than one employer solely by reason of changing jobs during the survey week.

Reliability of the estimates

- 11. Estimates in this publication are subject to two sources of error:
 - (a) sampling error: since the estimates are based on information obtained from occupants of a sample of dwellings they are subject to sampling variability; that is they may differ from the figures that would have been produced if all dwellings had been included in the survey. One measure of the likely difference is given by the standard error. More information about this topic will be found in The Labour Force, Australia (6203.0). A table of estimated standard errors for this survey follows these notes. Estimates with a standard error of more than about 27 per cent have not been shown in this publication, as the degree of sampling variability would seriously detract from their value for most reasonable uses. Although figures for these small components can, in some cases, be derived by subtraction they should not be regarded as reliable.
 - (b) non-sampling error: inaccuracies may occur because of imperfections in reporting by interviewers and respondents and errors made in the coding and processing of data. These inaccuracies may occur in any enumeration, whether it be a full count or a sample. Every effort is made to reduce the non-sampling error to a minimum by careful design of questionnaires, intensive training and supervision of interviewers and efficient operating procedures. In many cases the answer to the question on earnings was based on the knowledge of one

person (generally the housewife). Respondents were asked to indicate the amount of earnings in terms of ranges. (The earnings ranges used are those shown in Table 1.) It is considered that there may be some understatement in the estimates because of imperfect recall of minor or irregular sources of earnings. Other errors may be due to genuine misunderatanding.

Related publications

12. Other ABS publications which may be of interest include:

Weekly Earnings of Employees (Distribution), Australia, August 1982 (6310.0)

Average Weekly Earnings, Australia, (Preliminary) (6301.0), and final publication (6302.0)—issued quarterly Earnings and Hours of Employees, Distribution and Composition, Australia (Preliminary) (6305.0), and final publication (6306.0)—sample survey conducted in May (now once every two years).

Income Distribution, Australia, 1978-79:

Individuals (Preliminary) (6501.0), and final (6502.0)

Supplementary Tables (6504.0)

Income of Individuals, Australia, 1981-82 (Preliminary) (6501.0)

Award Rates of Pay Indexes, Australia (6312.0)—issued monthly

The Labour Force, Australia (6203.0)—issued monthly.

13. Current publications produced by the ABS are listed in the *Catalogue of Publications, Australia* (1101.0). The ABS also issues, on Tuesdays and Fridays, a *Publications Advice* (1105.0) which lists publications to be released in the following few days. The Catalogue and Publications Advice are available from any ABS office.

Symbols and other usages

- * subject to sampling variability too high for most practical uses. See paragraph 11 above.
- .. not applicable
- 14. Where figures have been rounded, discrepancies may occur between sums of the component items and totals.

R. J. CAMERON Australian Statistician

STANDARD ERRORS OF ESTIMATES

	N. C. W.	Y7.	01.1	6.4	117.4	T	NT	4.0.7	Au	stralia	
Size of estimate (persons)	N.S.W.	Vic.	Qld	S.A. –	W.A. – number —	Tas.	N. T.	A. C. T.	01	Per cent or estimate	
1,000 1,500 2,000 2,500 3,000 3,500 4,000 4,500 5,000 6,000 10,000 20,000 50,000 100,000 500,000 1,000,000 500,000 1,000,000 2,000,000 5,000,000 5,000,000 5,000,000 5,000,000	920 980 1,000 1,100 1,200 1,500 2,000 3,000 5,000 5,000 6,900 8,500 10,000	910 960 1,000 1,100 1,200 1,400 1,900 2,700 3,500 4,400 5,000 5,800 7,000 8,400	630 690 740 780 820 860 930 1,200 2,200 2,800 3,600 4,100 4,800 5,900	460 510 550 590 620 650 680 730 900 1,200 1,600 2,100 2,600 2,900 3,300	460 510 560 590 630 660 690 750 920 1,200 1,700 2,100 2,600 2,900 3,300	250 300 340 380 410 430 460 480 500 530 640 810 1,100 1,300 1,500	410 470 510 550 590 620 650 680 740 910 1,200 1,700	390 440 480 510 540 560 590 610 650 750 910 1,100	800 860 920 970 1,000 1,100 2,000 2,900 3,900 5,100 6,000 7,200 9,100 11,000 15,000	26.7 24.6 23.0 21.6 20.0 18.0 10.0 5.8 3.9 2.6 2.0 1.4 0.9 0.6	

TABLE 1. ALL EMPLOYEES : WEEKLY EARNINGS IN ALL JOBS AND FULL-TIME OR PART-TIME STATUS, STATES AND TERRITORIES, AUGUST 1983

	N.S. W.	Vic.	Qld	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	N.T.	A.C.T.	Australia
		MALE	FULL-TIM	E EMPLOYE	ES				
Veekly earnings (\$)—				_	-' 000				
Under 120	18.3	21.6	15.8	8.7	7.5	2.5	} 2.3	2.9	75. :
20 and under 160	35.5	24.7	19.0	8.9	10.1	3.3	. }		103.
60 " 180	28.0	22.4	9.5	6.5	8.6	2.7			80.
80 " 220	66.0	54.2	36.1	19.1	16.0	7.5	1.5	2.5	202.
220 " 240	73.9	63.9	34.6	21.5	17.1	7.6)	(2.6	222.
							2.9	}	
240 " 280	157.9	147.9	79.3	47.5	41.7	12.8)	5.7	494.
280 " 320	154.6	125.5	68.4	40.5	42.3	14.8	5.2	6.0	457.
320 " 380	170.9	125.2	70.6	37.7	38.3	10.4	3.6	5.8	462.
380 " 420	98.5	66.8	44.1	20.7	22.2	7.1	3.1	4.5	267.
420 " 480	75.6	58.0	29.0	16.6	19.7	5.3	3.2	4.0	211.4
480 " 520	53.8	33.6	15.9	9.7	14.8	3.5	1.9	3.7	136.9
520 " 580	48.6	32.8	18.4	11.2	13.5	2.7	2.8	6.5	136.:
580 and over	56.6	36.1	25.0	9.7	15.6	3.3	4.5	8.3	159.0
Total	1,038.2	812.7	465.8	258.2	267.4	83.2	30.9	52.5	3,008.9
				_	dollars				
Median earnings	316	303	303	297	311	294	380	387	30
Mean earnings	346	335	338	323	347	323	404	416	34
Standard error of mean	1.70	1.60	2.00	2.10	2.20	2.80	10.90	5.40	0.90
		FEMALI	E FULL-TII	ME EMPLOY	EES				
Weekly earnings (\$)—				-	-' 000—				
Under 120	19.2	16.1	13.3	5.0	5.7	2.3	2.0	3.4	
120 and under 160	37.0	28.6	17.1	10.3	10.6	2.9)		108.
160 " 180	27.9	24.7	12.5	6.1	6.7	2.4			82.
180 " 220	57.7	57.8	23.6	13.9	14.7	4.1	2.6	∫ 2.5	176.
220 " 240	59.5	45.1	23.3	12.3	15.8	4.1	3 2.0	3.0	164.
240 " 280	99.6	73.1	38.4	23.5	20.7	6.6	3.2	6.3	271.
280 " 320	61.0	44.1	23.1	12.0	12.5	3.7	2.7	4.6	163.
320 " 380	50.2	36.1	17.5	8.7	10.1	2.3	2.6	3.0	130.
380 " 420	22.8	15.9	7.5	5.4	5.5	1.7	1	*	60.
420 " 480	14.7	15.5	5.2	3.1	3.4	1		2.4	46.
480 " 520	10.8	3.8	} 4.3	{ }		[]	3.3	1	20.
520 " 580	5.0	4.9)	3.2	4.4	1.7		2.9	16.
580 and over	4.5	5.7	2.7	J				[]	[17.
Total	469.7	371.1	188.5	103.7	110.2	31.7	16.4	29.4	1,320.
				· -	dollars—				
Median earnings	254	247	245	247	243	241	286	277	25
Mean earnings	268	268	260	260	264	259	304	309	
Standard error of mean	2.30	2.30	2.90		3.10	4.60	12.20	6.30	1.2

TABLE 1. ALL EMPLOYEES: WEEKLY EARNINGS IN ALL JOBS AND FULL-TIME OR PART-TIME STATUS, STATES AND TERRITORIES, AUGUST 1983—continued

	N.S.W.	Vic.	Qld	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	N. T.	A.C.T.	Australia		
		MALE P	ART-TIME	EMPLOYER	ES(a)						
Weekly earnings (\$)—				. 1	' 000 —						
Under 40 40 and under 80 80 " 120 120 " 160	15.4 7.8 6.6 7.8	14.2 8.9 4.3	7.9 4.1 * 2.6	4.3 2.3 *	5.7 2.6 *	} 1.3	{ { } *	2.5	50.3 27.1 17.0 17.0		
160 " 220	7.9	5	2.9						18.3		
220 and over	19.2	12.5	6.6	2.0	2.7	*	J		45.0		
Total	64.7	46.4	25.8	13.4	14.8	4.5	*	4.0	174.7		
	—dollars—										
Median earnings Mean earnings Standard error of mean	133 177 8.10	81 147 7.50	101 145 8.60	81 144 9.70	62 125 8.10	128 141 13.50	* *	65 131 16.70	103 156 3.90		
	10	FEMALE	PART-TIM	E EMPLOYI	EES(a)			* .			
Weekly earnings (\$)—	8				-' 000—						
Under 40	37.7	30.4	18.9	8.7	11.9	2.5		1.8	112.7		
40 and under 60 60 " 80 80 " 120 120 " 160	19.4 22.0 35.6 40.1	20.0 14.6 33.4 29.2	10.1 8.1 17.6 14.5	6.1 4.6 14.1 13.2	8.2 7.7 13.7 11.2	1.7 2.2 4.5 3.6	2.1	\begin{cases} 2.1 \\ 2.1 \\ 1.8 \end{cases}	\begin{cases} 66.9 & 60.2 & 121.9 & 114.0 & \end{cases}		
160 " 180 180 " 220	16.3 23.0	15.9 14.2	8.0 9.8	5.4 7.4	5.2 4.3	1.5 1.8	1.6	2.0 2.0	54.5 62.8		
220 and over	34.8	21.9	13.8	9.4	6.2	1.6	J	2.7	91.0		
Total	228.9	179.7	100.8	68.9	68.3	19.4	3.8	14.3	684.0		
				_	dollars—						
Median earnings Mean earnings Standard error of mean	120 132 2.70	110 124 2.60	110 127 3.20	123 132 3.10	99 114 2.80	109 124 4.60	109 127 18.50	148 157 8.20	114 127 1.30		

⁽a) Since part-time employees are defined as those who usually work less than 35 hours and who did so in the survey week, these figures may include some school teachers, academic staff in universities, air crew, etc.

TABLE 2. EMPLOYEES WHO WORKED IN A SECOND JOB : WEEKLY EARNINGS IN MAIN JOB AND WEEKLY EARNINGS IN SECOND JOB, AUSTRALIA, AUGUST 1983

			Males			Females						
	Weekly e	arnings in seco	nd job	Mean		Weekly earnings in second job			Mean			
	Under \$30	\$30 and over	Total	weekly earnings in second job	Standard error	Under \$30	\$30 and over	Total	weekly earnings in second job	Standard error		
Weekly earnings in main job (\$)—	,000	'000	' 000	\$	\$, 000	, 000	, 000	\$	\$		
Under 120)	$\int \int $	5.1	42	5.10	5.7	7.5	13.1	50	3.70		
120 and under 180	} 3.7	$\{ \{ \{ \}, \} \} \}$	3.3	59	8.90	*	6.1	8.4	-65	6.20		
190 240	1	4.2	4.8		8.60	*	*	5.3		7.20		
240 ,, 280	5.1	4.6	5.8	74	8.50	*	*	3.3		8.80		
280 and over	5.1	27.0	31.0	76	3.50	*	7.0	7.5	96	9.60		
Total	8.9	41.1	50.0	71	2.50	11.8	25.8	37.6	65	2.70		
					—doll	ars—						
Median earnings in								¥				
main job	266	329	317			125	173	158				
Mean earnings in main	266	342	328			142	212	190				
Standard error of mean	24.40	13.50	11.60			11.20	10.90	7.90				

TABLE 3. FULL-TIME EMPLOYEES: WEEKLY EARNINGS IN ALL JOBS AND AGE, AUSTRALIA, AUGUST 1983

				Age group	(years)				
	15-19	20-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-59	60 and over	Total 20 and over	Total
				MALES					
Weekly earnings (\$)—				-	- ' 000 —		8		
Under 120	40.5	9.2	10.2	8.3	4.1]		35.0	75.5
120 and under 160 160 " 180	59.8 29.8	15.6 20.4	10.7 9.2	7.4 9.3	5.8 7.5	6.6	4.3	43.4 50.3	103.1 80.1
180 " 220 220 " 240 240 " 280	39.6 14.0 14.0	53.9 54.4 105.1	42.5 53.7 142.9	26.2 39.7 99.2	23.1 35.9 76.5	12.1 17.2 35.6	5.4 7.3 21.3	163.2 208.1 480.6	202.8 222.1 494.6
280 " 320 320 " 380	6.1	67.6 52.4	147.1 155.9	102.7 115.3	83.0 85.2	36.2 34.1	14.7 14.6	451.2 457.6	457.3 462.5
380 " 420		21.3	96.1	76.7	45.9	18.1	7.4	265.5	267.0
420 " 480 480 " 520 520 " 580	4.2	13.2 5.2 5.4	79.5 47.3 37.2	60.0 46.8 54.1	41.3 24.4 24.1	10.5 9.8 11.2	6.0 6.6	210.5 { 136.3 135.9	211.4 136.9 136.5
580 and over		6.7	39.1	54.9	38.9	15.1	3.7	158.4	159.0
Total	212.9	430.4	871.5	700.6	495.9	206.5	91.2	2,796.0	3,008.9
				_	dollars—				
Median earnings Mean earnings	164 177	263 283	327 356	350 382	328 368	315 364	300 341	317 353	309 341
Standard error of mean	2.60	2.70	2.10	2.60	3.20	5.50	8.50	0.90	0.90
				FEMALES		20			
Weekly earnings (\$)—			×	_	-' 000—				
Under 120	34.8	6.4	5.7	8.3	3.8]		28.1	62.9
120 and under 160 160 " 180 180 " 220 220 " 240	68.2 28.1 26.9 8.3	15.0 22.5 59.9 62.2	8.8 11.1 31.3 36.1	8.7 10.1 28.0 27.7	5.7 6.9 20.3 22.3	7.2 5.7	4.9	40.1 54.3 { 149.0 155.8	108.3 82.4 176.0 164.1
240 " 280	6.5	87.1	77.5	48.3	37.9	10.8	3.2	264.7	271.3
280 " 320 320 " 380 380 " 420	3.1	36.5 29.7 5.6	53.1 50.8 28.0	38.2 27.5 18.4	24.4 16.2 6.1	6.5 4.1 6.5	§ 5.1	\begin{cases} 160.6 \\ 129.8 \\ 60.4 \end{cases}	163.7 130.5 60.8
420 and over		9.8	36.8	27.9	18.1	5 0.5		98.6	100.7
Total	179.1	334.7	339.2	243.1	161.9	45.3	17.4	1,141.5	1,320.6
				-	dollars—				
Median earnings Mean earnings	152 166	241 253	280 304	272 293	263 289	259 284	236 245	262 283	250 267
Standard error of mean	2.70	2.80	3.40	4.00	5.10	10.60	15.60	1.40	1.20

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